GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2720
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
SURGERY FOR DIABETIC PATIENTS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment with regard to the number of diabetics who undergo surgery for gangrene or amputations of any kind;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any research has been conducted on methods to clean diabetics wounds and spur new skin growth and heal up Peripheral arterial disease (PAD); and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT.PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(b): Health being a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally. However, a multi-center study published in 2005 reported over all 3.9% Diabetics underwent minor or major amputation. This rate was varying from center to center.

(c)&(d): According to ICMR, a study done from Chennai has shown that about 5% of diabetic patients have peripheral arterial disease. The risk factors for gangrene are smoking and long duration of diabetes. When severe peripheral arterial disease is present, the treatment options are either angioplasty or bypass surgery. Management of Diabetic foot ulcers have undergone a lot of research and have tried different modalities like honey, maggots, fibroblast cells, stem cells, new surgical correction methods and antibiotics, traditional molecules, oxygen. Various researchers and clinicians in India as well as outside have tried these modalities of treating wound and ulcers in diabetic patients with varying success. Researchers in Egypt have tried the use of Maggot debridement therapy (MDT) in management of diabetic foot ulcer unresponsive to traditional treatment and surgical intervention. Researchers in Greece have demonstrated that Protease-modulating dressing act synergistically with autologous growth factors and enhance their efficacy in diabetic foot ulcers. Researchers in Cuba have shown that local injection of recombinant human epidermal growth factor enhances advanced diabetic foot ulcer healing and reduces the risk of major amputation.